

**REMARKS**

This Amendment, submitted in response to the Office Action dated December 23, 2003, is believed to be fully responsive to each point of rejection raised therein. Accordingly, favorable reconsideration on the merits is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-11 are pending in the present application. Claim 5 has been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the enablement requirement. Claim 5 has also been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. Claims 1-4, 6, 7 and 11 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Beamenderfer et al. (USP 4,834,674). Claims 3-5 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Beamenderfer in view of Berg et al. (USP 3,677,116).

***Objection to claim 5***

The Examiner has objected to claim 5 under 37 C.F.R. § 1.83(a) stating that the drawings must show every feature of the invention specified in the claims. Claim 5 has been canceled from the application, consequently the objection to claim 5 is now moot.

***Rejection of claim 5 under § 112 first and second paragraph***

The Examiner has rejected claim 5 stating that it is unclear what kind of cutting means is utilized to cut the end portions of the conductors 15a and 15b in the form of a stepped form. Since claim 5 has been withdrawn, the rejection of claim 5 under § 112 first and second paragraph is now moot.

***Rejection of Claims 1-4, 6, 7 and 11 Under § 102(b)  
as Being Anticipated by Beamenderfer***

Independent claims 1, 3 and 6 have been amended to clarify that no adjacent wires are on the same plane. In Beamenderfer, adjacent signal wires 4 are on the same plane. Since Beamenderfer does not disclose the elements of claims 1, 3 and 6 as amended, claims 1, 3 and 6 and their dependent claims are not anticipated by Beamenderfer and should be deemed allowable.

***Restriction of Claims 8-10***

The Examiner has restricted claims 8-10 from the present application stating that newly submitted claims 8-10 are directed to an invention that is independent or distinct from the invention originally claimed. Claims 8-10 have been withdrawn from the present application.

***New claim***

Applicant has added claim 12 to further clarify the structure of the flat cable. Since claim 12 describes elements similar to claims 1, 3, and 6, it should be deemed patentable for the same reasons.

***Conclusion***

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116  
U.S. APPLN. NO.: 10/053,007

ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. Q68157

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.


Respectfully submitted,

SUGHRUE MION, PLLC  
Telephone: (202) 293-7060  
Facsimile: (202) 293-7860

WASHINGTON OFFICE

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CUSTOMER NUMBER

  
Ruthleen E. Uy  
Registration No. 51,361

Date: May 21, 2004